

interested community people there and again submitted their proposal for Hastings. That was the beginning of the whole issue as far as Hastings was concerned. But I do want to let people know that I was extended the courtesy. I was there. It was a meeting, it was not a hearing, at that time, on December 12th. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Smith, please, then Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I would like to carry on a little conversation on the floor with Senator Lynch, if he's got the time and the inclination.

PRESIDENT: Would you respond, please, Senator Lynch?

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Chairman, I probably don't have as much information as any member of the Appropriations Committee, but I will try to respond.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Well I guess I'm trying to react to your...the questions you are raising, Senator Lynch. I hear a level of frustration about not only expenditure here but legitimate concerns of any rules here, and that is looking at process. Is that...and I hear your main concern being process. Is that....

SENATOR LYNCH: That is right.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: I guess I would say that you seem to be calling into question what proper roles various committees in the body should, in fact, play. That is always a good question to ask. And I am not trying to put words in your mouth. I am just trying to make sure I understand your point.

SENATOR LYNCH: Okay.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: I guess at this point I guess I would like to say that I would love to serve on every committee in this body. Clearly my time won't permit, and it is the process we have come up with, with the way we handle the workload which, in my opinion, is way out of hand, and we continually talk about how do we limit the number of bills, how do we better deal with the workload. I guess I'm just here to offer my willingness to sit down with you and talk about this. I'm not saying the process in any committee right now is perfect. Given the number of bills we are trying to deal with, it is certainly not probably